May 1, 2017

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
651 Pine Street
Martinez, CA 94553

Dear Supervisors:

MCE wishes to restate its commitment and enthusiasm for bringing local well-paying jobs and clean technology to Contra Costa County through membership in MCE. We are committed to Greenhouse Gas reductions through renewable energy and local workforce benefits.

We are committed to:

Well-Paying Local Jobs and Union Labor
We commit to creating local well-paying jobs and supporting the building trades through prevailing wage, local, and union labor. To demonstrate this we have used union trades for projects completed and in the works, including IBEW Locals 302 and 1245, Laborers Local 324, Pipefitters and Steamfitters Local 342, and we use Contra Costa based companies like Overaa Construction (Richmond), Net Electric (Richmond), Newton Group (Martinez), Contra Costa Electric (Martinez) and Goebel Construction (Richmond).

We have agreed to sign the standard seven-trade Project Labor Agreement (PLA) presented to MCE by the Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council along with a Local Hire Agreement with the goal that all projects in Contra Costa County will hire 50% qualified Contra Costa residents.

Local Development along the Northern Waterfront and Countywide
We commit to support renewable energy generation and energy storage projects in underutilized sites along the Northern Waterfront and we commit to identify locations along the Northern Waterfront where clean technology can be used to support our energy supply. With a strong financial track record, and deep energy sector relationships, we are in a healthy position to help get local renewable and energy storage projects off the ground and successfully completed. We commit to exploring the many sites available for this clean technology and see them as an excellent tool to help revitalize the Northern Waterfront and other appropriate sites around the County.
Job and Career Training
We commit to financially and otherwise support job and career training for Contra Costa residents through FutureBuild and the Contra Costa County Workforce Development Board just as we have supported RichmondBuild training programs over the past three years. These programs will create career pathways for Contra Costa residents entering the clean energy workforce and provide training to help residents qualify for the building trades apprenticeship programs, while ensuring there is a ready workforce for MCE’s renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. We are committed to partnering with the building trades and the local community colleges to develop these training programs. We are also committed to insuring that residents in the county’s disadvantaged communities have the maximum opportunities to enter these training programs.

Seeking MCE Office Space and Call Center in County and along the Northern Waterfront
We commit to seek an appropriate location for both MCE’s satellite office and call center in Contra Costa County, with a strong preference for the Northern Waterfront, ideally in a transit-friendly location. We understand that locating these facilities along the Northern Waterfront will help spur the County’s goal of developing this area.

We are extremely enthusiastic about the wide range of opportunities to collaborate and bring value to the Northern Waterfront, while furthering progress towards MCE’s shared objectives for local well-paying jobs and clean technology. We are committed to bringing our strong track record, experience, and industry relationships together to further the interests outlined above.

Robust and Diverse Community Input
We commit to establishing a Contra Costa Community Leadership Advisory Group and also utilize MCE’s Community Power Coalition as an additional means of providing broad public input into MCE Board decisions on rate-setting, location of local energy development and storage projects, and developing career and job training programs. The Community Leadership Advisory Group (CLAG) will invite stakeholders from labor unions, business, environmental and environmental justice communities, and the non-profit sector to insure broad and diverse participation.

Representative Governance
We commit to insure that Contra Costa jurisdictions are fairly and equitably represented on the MCE Board. Contra Costa jurisdictions (cities and county) will comprise a majority of the MCE Board if the County and seven additional cities become members of MCE.

We look forward to having Contra Costa County join MCE so we can work together to achieve the significant benefits laid out in this commitment letter.

Many thanks for your time and consideration,

Dawn Weisz
CEO

cc. John Kopchik, Director, Department of Conservation and Development